

# REVIEWS



## BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

### VITAL SIGNS

by Andy Thomas

S B Publications, UK, 1998, revised and updated 2002; Frog Ltd, USA, 2002 ISBN 1-85770-256-5 (UK) (192pp tpb); 1-58394-069-03 (USA) (192pp tpb) Price: £14.95 + £1.60 p&h in UK, £5.75 to USA, £6.00 o/s p&h elsewhere; Euro 26,90; US\$20.00

Availability: **UK**—Vital Signs, 13 Downsview Cottages, Cooksbridge, East Sussex BN8 4TA, website <http://www.vitalsignspublishing.co.uk>; **UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Frog Ltd, <http://www.northatlanticbooks.com>

The crop circle mystery deepens every year, and 2002 produced a few more surprises. For those prepared to think outside the square and dismiss mainstream media claims that the glyphs are designed and made by hoaxers or "plankers", then Andy Thomas's revised edition of his 1998 book *Vital Signs* is a must-read, even if you have the original version (see review, 5/06). (Thomas contributed his perspective on the 2002 season for our coverage this issue.)

This new edition contains another 48 pages and includes a selection of the best crop circle images (in colour) from the intervening four years, revisions on the earlier text and updates on the chronology of the English glyphs. These formations, however fleeting their existence in the fields, however scientifically baffling and strange their effects on those who visit them, are far too beautiful and mysterious not to be documented, so

Thomas has diligently carried on this task with the aid of fellow researchers and a group of intrepid aerial photographers (see website <http://www.swirlednews.com>). There are over 260 colour and b&w images here, and the foreword is by Mike Leigh, film director and former "closet croppie". There's also an extensive bibliography.

If you're a newcomer to the field and may have seen the Hollywood film *Signs*, then this book could be vital to your education.

### SECRETS IN THE FIELDS: The Science and Mysticism of Crop Circles

by Freddy Silva

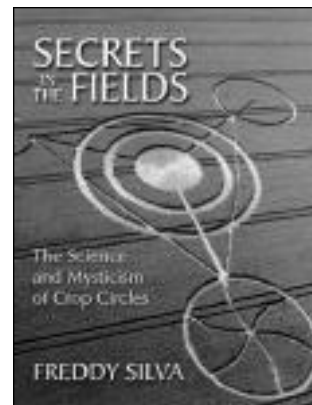
Hampton Roads Publishing, USA, 2002 ISBN 1-57174-322-7 (332pp tpb) Price: A\$46.00; NZ\$66.95; £16.95; Euro 25.90; US\$19.95 (US\$14.00 on the web) Availability: **Australia**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9761 5535; **NZ/UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Hampton Roads, tel (804) 296 2772, website <http://www.hrpub.com>

Appearing in the fields in greater numbers and sophistication since the late 1980s—mostly in England but also in two dozen other countries—the crop formations inspire so much awe that they could well be the new temples of our times. Most who have stood within a crop circle would agree.

In *Secrets in the Fields*, researcher Freddy Silva, who's based in Wessex, England, considers why and how the crop circles might have the effects they do on their beholders. Silva has made a fitting selection of b&w and colour photos (many are his own) plus diagrams which he uses with rivetting effect. He explores the historical data, scientific evidence, geometries and symbolisms, and talks to fellow researchers and individuals whose lives have been touched by them.

While Silva, like other researchers, can only speculate on the identity of the Circlemakers, he leaves us in no doubt that they exhibit a high degree of intelligence and demonstrate a profound grasp of universal mathematical and geometrical principles. He exposes the hoaxers and debunkers, and enlightens us to the beautiful mathematical proportions embodied in the cereal creations and their relationships with sacred landmarks, ley lines and even the local guardian spirits. Silva taps into the "acoustical alchemy" that is integral to the shapes, and he shows how the designs have resonance with the symbols of ancient cultures and secret societies. He also investigates the theories that music and sound, light and microwave energy are involved in their creation. The humming sounds, light columns, moving lights balls and electromagnetic interference reported by many witnesses all add up to important circumstantial evidence.

But whatever the theory, the crop circles evoke a sense of beauty, harmony and wonder. They're irresistible and undeniable.





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## STARGATE CHRONICLES: Memoirs of a Psychic Spy

by Joseph McMoneagle

Hampton Roads Publishing, USA, 2002  
ISBN 1-57174-265-4 (USA) (294pp hc);  
1-57175-225-5 (Aust/NZ)  
Price: A\$65.95; NZ\$83.95; £19.99;  
Euro 31,90; US\$24.95

Availability: **Australia**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9761 5535; **NZ/UK/Europe**— NEXUS offices; **USA**—Hampton Roads Publishing, website <http://www.hrpub.com>

Joseph McMoneagle, officially designated as Remote Viewer 001 in the US military's counterintelligence program that was later called *Star Gate*, focuses on his life story in his fourth book, *The Stargate Chronicles*. For his previous ones, *Remote Viewing Secrets* (see 7/06), *The Ultimate Time Machine* (6/02) and *Mind Trek*, he covered historical aspects of the military's remote viewing (RV) programs, the strict protocols that must be followed, and even predictions for the next 100 years, but here he brings more of himself into the picture.

To date, McMoneagle has spent 23 years studying and practising RV under controlled conditions and applying it as an intelligence-gathering tool (though he left the military in 1984). He feels somewhat justified in railing against those who think they understand what remote viewing is, yet take the fast track without following and practising the tried-and-tested protocol developed at SRI in the 1970s. Yet he acknowledges that other types of psychic functioning, such as clairvoyance, can fulfill the RV protocol when everyone involved is "blind" to the object, person, place or event targeted.

McMoneagle's warts-and-all memoir includes key events in his childhood, his

military RV work, out-of-body explorations with The Monroe Institute, RVing live on TV, success in locating missing persons, and much more. He also brings a refreshing philosophical stance to his experiences, looking at the ethics of using—and misusing—psychic and RV abilities and protocols for military, political or personal ends.

## THE BEST DEMOCRACY MONEY CAN BUY

by Greg Palast

Pluto Press, UK, USA, 2002  
ISBN 0-7453-1846-0 (211pp hc)  
Price: A\$61.00 + \$5.45 p&h; NZ\$83.00 + NZ\$8.50 airmail to NZ; £18.99; £17.95 to Europe; Euro 31,90; US\$25.00

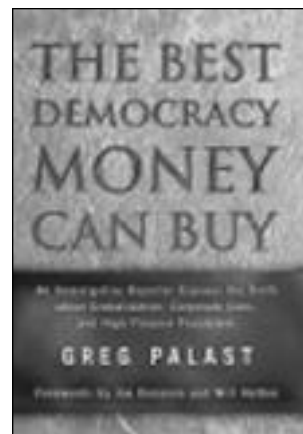
Availability: **Australia**—Footprint Books, tel +61 (0)2 9997 3973; **UK**—Pluto Press, tel 020 8348 2724, <http://www.pluto-books.com>; **Europe**—NEXUS Office; **USA**—Stylus, tel (703) 661 1581

Greedy, corruption and scandals at corporate, governmental and institutional levels have been targeted by Los Angeles-born Greg Palast since the mid-1970s. But it was not until 1998 that he decided to apply his investigative skills to journalism, first off doing undercover reporting for the London *Observer* and eventually doing exposés for BBC's *Newsnight*. He commutes between New York and London, and covers a lot of ground in between in his exposure of local and global threats to freedom.

*The Best Democracy Money Can Buy* is a compilation of Palast's essays, articles and updates on some major scandals of recent times that he's broken or reported on and which have been underplayed or ignored by the mainstream media. There's the scandal

of how the November 2000 US presidential vote was rigged in Florida, and who was paid to fix it. There's the scandal of how the IMF and World Bank forces debt-ridden Third World nations to sell out to transnationals, which then leave the poor unable to afford water. There's the scandal of how Monsanto hid crucial test data for its genetically modified milk-making hormone BST, and conspired with the FDA to have it approved. Not to mention the 1998 UK "Lobbygate" scandal, where Palast exposed the hand-in-glove relationship Labour PM Tony Blair was fostering with US Big Business interests via well-connected lobbyists. And Palast's analysis of the UK D-Notice system is revealing for what it says about journalistic self-censorship and the implications for freedom of speech.

Palast captures much more, though could have included more documentation as backup. But his writings are gripping, as he weaves his own story as a "muckraker" into the subjects with incisiveness and humour.



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## CONVERSATIONS WITH THE BODY

by Robyn Elizabeth Welch

Hodder & Stoughton, UK, 2002

ISBN 0-340-81942-1 (212pp tpb)

Price: A\$29.95; NZ\$37.95; £10.00;

Euro 17,90

Availability: **Aust**—Hodder Headline, tel

(02) 8248 0800; **NZ**—Hodder Moa

Beckett, tel (09) 478 1000; **UK**—Hodder &

Stoughton, tel 020 78736000; **Europe**—

NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558

Imagine that you can focus healing energy on an organ needing attention or even cut off the blood supply to a tumour. Well, you can, says Robyn Welch, and here she shows how it's possible. Although she's always had a sensitivity for life and living things, she didn't realise her gift as a diagnostic medical intuitive until she was well into her adult years. Her uterine cancer and also brain damage sustained after a car accident in her native Australia gave her the impetus.

Welch's sixth-sense technique involves being able to scan the aura of her client, see the de-energised organ or cellular structure, and literally talk with it about its state of health and then re-energise it with focused white-light healing energy. In effect, she's intuitively adopted ancient, time-honoured methods such as those used by the kahunas of Hawaii, where she's spent a lot of time.

She's come to realise that it's a fifth dimensional healing that she's able to effect, a healing which is a level above negative influences and steeped in a loving energy that even the cells and organs enjoy lapping up. Welch recounts her remarkable story in *Conversations with the Body*, and includes many life-changing encounters with clients as well as people she's met in unusual circumstances but whose health problems she's

identified and healed. Her positive attitude to life's challenges has meant that whenever she's been hard-pressed, her needs have always been met when she's stuck to her strength of faith in the workings of spirit. The heart turns the feeling of love into an actual healing frequency, and she's seen its benefits demonstrated time and time again.

This is such a life-affirming book, and Robyn Welch's advice is of high integrity and practicality for those prepared to direct heartfelt energy with mental discipline.

## THE BIOLOGY OF TRANSCENDENCE

by Joseph Chilton Pearce

Park Street Press, USA, 2002

ISBN 0-89281-990-1 (279pp hc)

Price: A\$49.95; NZ\$64.95; £17.99;

Euro 27,90; US\$22.00; C\$29.95

Availability: **Australia**—Gemcraft, tel (03)

9761 5535; **NZ**—Southern Publishers, tel

(09) 309 6930; **UK**—Deep Books, tel 020

8693 0234; **Europe**—NEXUS Office;

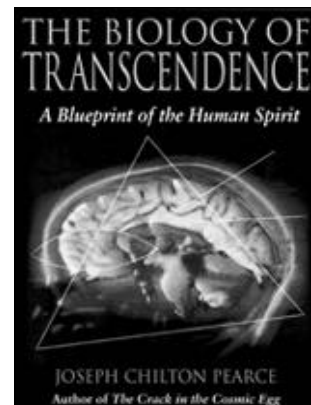
**USA**—Inner Traditions, tel (802) 767

3174, <http://www.InnerTraditions.com>

The keys to transcendence as well as the potential to fall back into fear and violence are within us all, says Joseph Chilton Pearce (*The Crack in the Cosmic Egg*). But as he sees it, we are programmed to transcend and integrate the highest ideals and natures embodied in such great masters as Jesus, Buddha and Lao-tzu. So what's hindering our evolutionary progress? Pearce argues that the dictates of myth, religion and culture break down the dynamic interaction between our "head brain", or intellect, and our "heart brain", or intelligence. This breakdown keeps us locked into cycles of hurt and violence in our societies.

In *The Biology of Transcendence*, Pearce provides a "blueprint of the human spirit" that has much in common with ancient Indian yogic science teachings. Actually, many of today's frontier-pushing neuroscientists are coming to the same conclusions as the ancients about the nature of intellect and intelligence. He reminds us that as evolving beings we are capable of much more than the world's religious institutions will ever admit—for spiritual growth is not dependent on one's having a religion.

Acknowledging the input of the Heart-Math Institute as well as the Siddha Yoga Foundation, Pearce makes us face up to moving beyond our fears to incorporate an understanding of how the heart—with its electromagnetic, neural and hormonal layers—acts as our fifth brain, capable of working in partnership with our intellect and propelling us into realms of higher wisdom through love, if we so choose. This is the great adventure for humanity—and one that Pearce thinks we must undertake for the sake of our survival.





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## EVIDENCE: The Case for NASA UFOs by David Sereda

Terra Entertainment, Inc., USA, 2002  
ISBN 0-75284-6353 (336pp hc)  
Price: US\$14.95 + s&h; C\$20.95 + s&h;  
Euro 18,90

Availability: **USA**—Terra Entertainment,  
<http://www.shopterra.com>; Adventures  
Unlimited; **Europe**—NEXUS Office

Readers may recall that back in 8/01 we reviewed a video, *The Secret NASA Transmissions*, that featured amazing NASA space shuttle footage recorded by Martyn Stubbs, former program manager of a Canadian cable TV station. It depicted what appear to be "life forms" which come and go in the near-space region of Earth.

As it turns out, American ufologist David Sereda has been conducting research into these phenomena and has written this book, *Evidence: The Case for NASA UFOs* (there are also two videos available, hosted by actor/filmmaker Dan Aykroyd who also wrote the foreword for the book). It was six years in the making from the time he heard about these unexplained lights and disc-shaped objects and made contact with Stubbs—who, as the story goes, kept his best footage hidden for another four years.

On the video I've seen, there were objects filmed leaving the Earth's atmosphere at extraordinarily fast speeds and impossible trajectories, as well as lights interacting with the astronauts. But as for the anomalous images in the space tether incident, Sereda concludes they were hardly specks of dust on the camera lens; in relation to the 12-mile-long tether, they were disc-shaped objects as wide as two to three miles!

With Stubbs, Sereda takes us through the various sequences and accompanying NASA

denials as to what the images portray. There's also discussion of the UV photographs, taken many years ago by NASA's Dr Louis A. Frank, of huge water balls, weighing as much as 20 to 40 tons, which hit the Earth's upper atmosphere at the rate of 10 to 20 million per year, yet appear to be intelligently guided. Something's going on out there that our scientists can't explain.

Sereda takes a giant leap by suggesting that the Sirius system is involved in many of these phenomena and that NASA is covering up what it knows. In any case, the mysteries are still unsolved, but it remains to be seen whether Sereda's speculations are correct.

## LOOKING FOR ORTHON

by Colin Bennett

Paraview Press, USA, 2001  
ISBN 1-931044-32-5 (224pp tpb)  
Price: US\$15.95 + \$2.50 s&h in US;  
£12.50; Euro 24,90

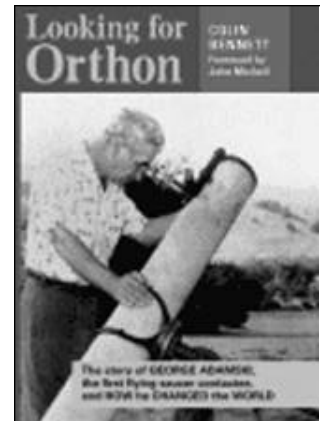
Availability: **USA**—Paraview Press, tel  
(212) 489 5343, <http://www.paraview-press.com>; **UK**—Amazon, <http://www.amazon.co.uk>; **Europe**—NEXUS Office

It's a big ask to have us believe that George Adamski's claimed encounter with a long-blond-haired Venusian in the Nevada desert in November 1952 changed the world, but this is what English author Colin Bennett says in *Looking for Orthon* (Orthon was the Venusian entity). This is despite his saying that Adamski was *not* the first such ET contactee. Even so, we can't ignore the context of the UFO phenomenon in the early 1950s, and the lasting imprint that Adamski's photographs have had on our collective psyche.

This is not the first book written about this rather curious personality, a rough diamond as well as student and teacher of esoteric

knowledge sourced from Theosophy and Anthroposophy. Adamski was born in Poland in 1891 and was only two years old when his family migrated to the USA. From 1940 he lived near the foot of Mount Palomar, California, site of the renowned 200-inch optical telescope. As well as giving lectures, living at a pioneering commune and being a local identity at the mountain's tourist haunts, Adamski scanned the skies with his own six-inch telescope and took many photographs suggestive of UFO craft (no examples are included herein, unfortunately). He also wrote several books about universal philosophy and his strange encounters, including his 1936 *Wisdom of the Masters of the Far East* and his 1953 bestseller *Flying Saucers Have Landed*.

Colin Bennett is a staunch advocate for Adamski's importance in setting the philosophical tone for the postwar UFO period. But his comparisons of Adamski's role with that of famous historical figures like Pythagoras, Shakespeare and Hitler detracts from what is already a captivating story.



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## THE ROUND TOWERS OF ATLANTIS by Henry O'Brien

Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 2002  
(first published as *The Round Towers of Ireland*, 1834)

ISBN 1-931882-01-0 (524pp tpb)

Price: A\$39.00; NZ\$49.00; £16.95;

Euro 24,90; US\$18.95 + s&h

Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe—**

NEXUS offices; **USA—**Adventures Unlimited, tel (815) 253 6390, website <http://www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com>



**W**ho built the Round Towers of Ireland and for what purpose remains a mystery. According to Irish tradition they were built by the ancient Tuatha de Danann, said to have been led to Ireland from the Holy Land by Queen Scota; so they are probably pre-Christian. They certainly caught the attention of one Henry O'Brien, who was born in County Kerry, Ireland, in 1808 and graduated from Trinity College, Dublin.

O'Brien applied his linguistic ability and

interest in archaeology, history and ancient traditions to his major work, *The Round Towers of Ireland*, which was published in 1834—but his sudden death the next year, aged 27, deprived the world of a visionary scholar. This edition is a faithful reprint of the original, though the publisher strangely substitutes Ireland with Atlantis in the title. O'Brien discusses the fascinating connections that ancient Ireland had with India, Persia and China and he compares the round towers with the Egyptian obelisks. The language, being of the early 19th century, requires patience in the reading, but the text is full of arcane knowledge that crosses historical, religious and cultural borders.

The introduction (in inappropriately small type) is by David H. Childress, who refers to the work of Dr Phil Callahan who first studied the towers when he was stationed in Ireland during World War II as a US Army radio engineer. While one theory posits that the towers had an astronomical purpose, Dr Callahan surmises that each tower was built to act as an antenna, in concert with a nearby paramagnetic crystalline rock outcrop, to focus the Sun's energy into the ground to aid soil and plant fertility. This treasure trove of esoterica expands on the mystery.

## BEFORE THE FLOOD

by Ian Wilson

Orion Books Ltd, UK, 2001

ISBN 0-75284-6353 (336pp hc)

Price: A\$49.95; NZ\$79.95; £18.99;

Euro 33,90; US\$ n/a

Availability: **Australia—**Allen & Unwin,

tel (02) 8425 0100; **NZ—**Hodder Moa

Beckett, tel (09) 377 3800; **UK—**Orion

Books, tel 020 7240 3444; **Europe—**

NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558;

**USA—**St Martin's Press (early 2003), tel (212) 674 5151, <http://www.stmartins.com>

**T**he evidence has been growing for decades that the Black Sea was once breached and flooded by the Mediterranean Sea at the area known as the Bosphorus. Historian Ian Wilson (*The Blood and the Shroud*) has been following the discoveries, especially those made by US oceanographer Bill Ryan and plate tectonics specialist Walter Pitman in 1993, confirming a 1970s Bulgarian mapping of an ancient shoreline 100 metres below the present sea level.

Ryan and Pitman, with geology student Candace Major, found in their core samples the remains of freshwater mussels that could only have been smashed up in a devastating rushing-in of salt water; they were later dated to c. 5600 BC. Their findings, which they discussed in their 1998 book *Noah's Flood*, give credence to the various Great Flood legends sourced from this region, and even to the Atlantis myth. But it wasn't until September 2000, during American Robert Ballard's second expedition to the Black Sea, that remains of wooden dwellings were found, 15 km offshore from Sinop in northern Turkey and 95 metres underwater.

The threads of this story are up-ending what we understand of post-Ice Age civilisations, landscapes and climates. In *Before the Flood*, Ian Wilson speculates on the people and culture of the Black Sea region before the inundation, and their possible links with the ancient inland centre of Çatal Hüyük (in Turkey) and a religion based on Great Mother Goddess worship. And because many cultures have bordered the Black Sea, the rewards of future expeditions will undoubtedly be rich. Wilson's enticing book conjures some dramatic moments.

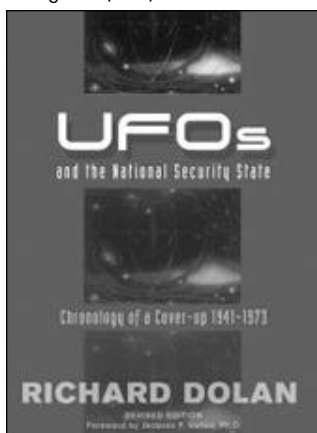


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## UFOs AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY STATE: Chronology of a Cover-up 1941-1973

by Richard M. Dolan

Hampton Roads Publishing, USA, 2002 (revised edition; first published 2000)  
ISBN 1-57174-317-0 (478pp tpb)  
Price: A\$41.95; NZ\$53.95; Euro 20,90; £13.99; US\$15.95 (US\$11.95 on the web)  
Availability: **Aust**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9761 5535; **NZ**—NEXUS Office, tel (09) 405 1963; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321 380558; **UK**—Airlift Book Co., tel 020 8804 0400; **USA**—Hampton Roads Publishing, tel (804) 296 2772



No serious study of the paranoid Cold War environment can ignore the influence of the UFO phenomenon on the establishment and evolution of the national security state, most evidently in the USA. At least one researcher, cultural historian Richard Dolan, has made the connection: that the secrecy policies and security measures put in place by government, military and intelligence apparatuses were at least partly in response to a perceived UFO threat, whether Soviet or extraterrestrial—more so than is generally acknowledged.

For the first volume of *UFOs and the National Security State*, Dolan turns to files released under the Freedom of Information Act (but as many a researcher has found, only so much material has been de-classified). To fill in the gaps, he defers to important "primary sources", such as the works of pioneering researcher/author Major Donald Keyhoe, in tracing historical developments on UFOs from the US perspective.

The scope of this volume (first published in 2000 by Keyhole Publishing and revised and updated for this new edition) covers the period from 1941, with the first "foo fighter" encounters during WWII, to 1973, by which time the UFO problem had reached new depths of security secrecy.

Dolan has written a succinct chronological

overview of postwar official and public reactions to UFOs. He covers significant sightings and "waves", attempts by the military to clamp down on a possible security threat it couldn't control, the Air Force's failed *Project Blue Book*, the beginning of the "modern" alien abduction era in 1961, and the rise and fall of early civilian UFO groups. He also examines the 1968 Condon Report, which concluded that nothing of scientific value had been or would be obtained by studying the phenomenon!

Dolan's ambitious volume is another welcome addition to the ufological record.

## THE WILD GENIE: The Healing Power of Menstruation

by Alexandra Pope

Sally Milner Publishing, Australia, 2001  
ISBN 1-86351-279-9 (288pp tpb)  
Price: A\$34.95; NZ\$49.95; £13.95; Euro 25,90; US\$/n/a

Availability: **Aust**—Gemcraft, tel (03) 9761 5535; **NZ**—David Bateman, tel (09) 415 7664; **UK**—Windsor Books, tel 01865 361122; **Europe**—NEXUS Office; **USA**—Sterling Publishing, tel (212) 532 7160

The last thing that many premenstrual or menstruating women and girls want to hear is that menstruation means living their feminine power—especially when they're in an irritable state of mind or extreme pain. But in *The Wild Genie*, Sydney-based psychotherapist and women's health educator Alexandra Pope offers a different perspective on this natural female biological cycle.

The big message is that women are *not* meant to suffer because of menstruation—but if they do, they *can* do something about it. Distressing symptoms are a signal for women to attend to their overall health and their place in the world, says Pope. By dealing with one problem at a time—for instance, improving a poor diet, restoring an imbalance of hormones, reducing stress levels, lowering exposure to environmental pollutants, and so on—women can start the healing process in motion. And as all systems are interconnected, a gain in one area soon has benefits in other areas. This does wonders for improving self-esteem, too.

Pope goes further to restore meaning to the purpose and power of the menstrual cycle, a meaning that has been devalued by materialistic culture.

She helps girls and women find a way to discover or reconnect with their innate feminine power, to work through pain and trauma via a womb-heart-head connection, and to adopt practical, health-promoting diet and lifestyle options. Her book is a well of wisdom for women of all ages—and the men who care about them.

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## BATTLING BIG BUSINESS

edited by Eveline Lubbers

Scribe Publications, Australia, 2002;

Common Courage Press, USA, 2002

ISBN 0-908011-77-6 (Scribe);

1-56751-224-0 (CCP) (224pp tpb)

Price: A\$27.50; NZ\$34.95; £10.95;

Euro 22,90; US\$13.46 + s&h

Availability: **Aust**—Scribe Publications, tel (03) 9349 5955, website

<http://www.scribepub.com.au>; **NZ**—

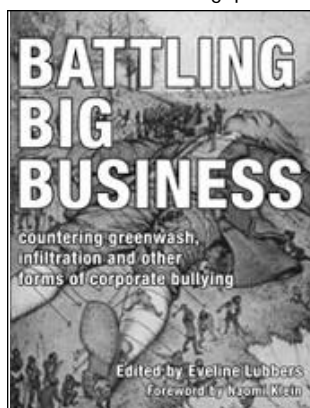
Addenda, tel (09) 834 5511; **UK**—Green

Books, tel 01803 863260; **Europe**—

NEXUS Office; **USA**—Common Courage

Press, tel (207) 525 0900, website

<http://www.commoncouragepress.com>



This is an important book about corporate tactics of greenwashing, infiltration and other forms of bullying—and how to counteract them. It is edited by Dutch grassroots activist Eveline Lubbers, who commissioned some well-known writers and campaigners around the world to contribute.

In the first part, the emphasis is on how powerful corporations try to silence their critics and "keep up appearances" by using public relations tactics to bolster their ethical and environmental profile, while hiding the true harm that their products and practices may be wreaking on the environment and people, both in the developed and developing worlds. Represented are industries including oil (Shell and bp), "life sciences" (Monsanto), forestry (Timberlands), tobacco and food (Philip Morris/Kraft) and fast food (McDonald's). Their strategies include rebranding themselves, forming front groups to masquerade as citizens' organisations, co-opting their critics by hiring high-profile environmentalists, adopting divide-and-rule policies, targeting classrooms, spying on critics and suing them for libel, lobbying stakeholders and governments behind the scenes, cyber-surveillance, and so on.

The focus in the second part is on how the concerned citizen can battle big business bullying through patient investigation, Internet activism, non-violent protest and

specially targeted grassroots actions.

The high-calibre contributors include Sharon Beder (*Global Spin*, see 7/04), Ann Doherty and Olivier Hoedeman (Corporate Europe Observatory), Nicky Hager (*Seeds of Distrust*; *Secret Power*, 3/06), George Monbiot (*Captive State*, 8/03; *Guardian*), and Eveline Lubbers herself. Whether you're fighting a supermarket chain coming to town or an engineering transnational building a pipeline in your area, this is a must-read for those who want to know what they're up against and how to overcome it.

## AIDS: A SECOND OPINION

by Gary Null, PhD

Seven Stories Press, USA, 2002

ISBN 1-58322-062-3 (750pp hc)

Price: £23.99; Euro 44,90; US\$34.95;

C\$49.95

Availability: **UK**—Turnaround, tel 0181

829 3000; **Europe**—NEXUS Office, tel +31

(0)321 380558; **USA**—Seven Stories Press,

website <http://www.sevenstories.com>;

**Canada**—Hushion House, tel (416) 285

6100

Leading American alternative health practitioner and writer Gary Null, PhD, (with editor James Feast, PhD) has produced a mega-guide to alternative, traditional and orthodox approaches to AIDS.

*AIDS: A Second Opinion* is divided into seven parts: evidence against the current AIDS hypothesis; alternative causes of AIDS; the business of AIDS, Inc.; conventional treatment programs; the AZT hoax; alternative treatments (with some age-old wisdom); and a grand finale on the increasingly popular new medical paradigm.

Dr Null analyses the science bandied about on both sides of the HIV/AIDS debate, the rubbery statistics issued by health authorities, and the African AIDS origin hypothesis in light of US anticancer and biowarfare programs, drawing here on testimony from Dr Leonard Horowitz. There's analysis of the African AIDS situation and the problem of making available cheap anti-AIDS drugs (yet ones already known by US scientists to be dangerous). The alternative therapeutic protocols covered have much going for them compared with pharmaceutical drug cocktails, and the case studies and experiences of long-term survivors suggest a paradigm shift is required in the approach to treatment.

There's a chapter on oxygen and ozone therapies, but no mention I can see of Basil Wainwright's successes against AIDS and other diseases in Kenya and elsewhere with application of his polyatomic apheresis "blood ozonation" technology. But that's not to say that the personalities and politics, the realities and deceptions in the AIDS drama are not writ large in these pages.



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## VIDEO

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

### MICHAEL MOORE:

Live in Santa Rosa, March 4, 2002

© Project Censored, USA, 2002

Price: US\$20.00 inc. s&h in USA  
(70mins, NTSC)

Availability: USA—Project Censored,  
Sonoma State University, 1801 East Cotati  
Avenue, Rohnert Park, CA 94928, tel  
(707) 664 2500, website <http://www.projectcensored.org>



I get to visit the USA once or twice a year, and one thing I look for on their TV is Michael Moore's show, *The Awful Truth*. It represents the average, everyday, small, battling American having their say and fighting back against faceless and impersonal corporations and bureaucracies. And the best thing about it is: Michael Moore is *not* your typical square-jawed, clean-shaven, designer-dressed, teleprompter reader: he is just a regular American guy who gives a dam. And he is very incisive and funny, to boot.

By now, every NEXUS reader should have heard of his book that no one would publish: *Stupid White Men... and Other Sorry Excuses for the State of the Nation!* (see cover image above). This video is of a talk Mike gave to university students during his whirlwind tour following the eventual release—and surprise success—of his book.

In a very skilful and humorous way, he explores: the fact that George W. Bush hijacked the US presidential election with assistance from bro' Jeb; the cosy relationships between The Carlyle Group and the bin Ladens; and many other hypocracies not

readily evident to the American public.

I do like his declaration that Americans should leave some sort of explanation about their societal structure for future historians and archaeologists—in the sense that 1% of the nation rules the other 99%, yet those in the 99% category run around saying the USA represents freedom and democracy.

After hearing Mike speak, you feel fired up about your own power to effect change. He tells his wryly amusing story about a billboard for potato chips, writing an essay and ending up on national TV at age 16—the point being that where there's a will... This is a truly motivating and inspiring as well as informative 70 minutes that should be compulsory viewing for all Americans.

## CD-ROM

Reviewed by Duncan Roads

### SUIL'S ISLAND

by Telma G. Dufton

Price: A\$30.00 inc. p&h in Australia; o/s airmail add A\$5.00 (cheques & MOs only, payable to Telma G. Dufton)

Systems: PC, Windows and Mac

Availability: Australia—Telma G. Dufton,  
6 Sixth Avenue, Katoomba NSW 2780, tel  
+61 (0)2 4782 4686, email [c/omd@pnc.com.au](mailto:c/omd@pnc.com.au)

This CD-ROM book is the end result of nearly two decades of research into ancient history and the origins of human civilisation. Like so many books we review, this does not consider current theories of history to be sacrosanct, and thus it asks many intelligent questions and in turn provides some insightful observations.

Author Telma Dufton has certainly kept up to date with both mainstream and alternative information sources, and the scope and breadth of her material is impressive, to say the least. The subjects include: dating techniques; ley lines, maps and measurements; ancient civilisations; the Druids; planetary catastrophes and climate change; ships and navigation; and myths and religions. And on top of all this, she's crammed the CD with fascinating facts, figures, maps and diagrams. As well as being a sharp-eyed historian, Telma is an accomplished artist, having twice been a finalist in the prestigious Australian art competition, the Doug Morgan Portrait Prize. The only "complaint" I have about this book is that, since it is a CD-ROM, I cannot take it to bed to read, which is where I like to read books of this special nature!

I look forward to seeing this published as a hardback book one day; the quality of its content would certainly make it worthwhile.



# REVIEWS



## MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

### MOFFOU

by Salif Keita

Universal Music, France, 2002 (61mins)  
Distributors: **Australia/NZ/UK/USA**—  
Universal Music

The master of Malian music, Salif Keita, is back with a new album in which he returns to his roots with profound songs of freedom, joy, creativity and a sense of responsibility for nature and the environment. An assembly of local musicians backs him on this home visit. His words on the CD insert sum up the music: "Happiness isn't for tomorrow. It's not hypothetical; it starts here and now." His origins as a music man of the Griot tradition of Mali come through strongly. Melodious and relaxed listening with a great African flavour.

### DEEP SPACE

by Japetus

Japetus Music, Australia, 2001 (62mins)  
Distributor: **Australia**—Japetus, tel 0412  
041400 (mobile, Aust only), website  
<http://www.japetus.net>

Japetus has been a leading ambient and New Age musician in Australia since the 1980s. Over the last year he's been remastering and re-recording all his early works. *Deep Space* is a collage of cosmic moods that wash through you, taking the soul on a trip through universal mind. The CD is divided into two lengthy tracks: "Starlite", winner of a 2000 Dolphin Music Award, and "Celestial Ocean", which works through ebb and flow into the soul. *Deep Space* is a broad sweep, taking you on an extra-human journey, not unlike Kubrick's 2001. Very powerful and profound music.

### THE GIFT

by Hassan Hakmoun

Universal Music, UK, 2002 (51mins)  
Distributors: **Australia/NZ/UK/USA**—  
Universal Music, website  
<http://www.universalmusic.com>

Hassan Hakmoun has a Gnawa family background mixed with Berber and Arab ancestry. Gnawa music and dance is a distinct spiritual healing art derived from the Gnawa slaves brought to Morocco from Mali centuries back. In 1993 Hassan released *Trance*, his first album on the Real World label, which helped make his name. His instrument is the African bass lute, the sintir. *The Gift* is the result of sessions recorded in Morocco but mixed in the US, where the Gnawa songs were combined with reggae, pop and traditional sounds.

### RETURN TO SERENITY

by various artists

Music Mosaic, Australia, 2002 (59mins)  
Distributors: **Australia**—New World  
Music, tel (02) 9565 4522, website  
<http://www.music-mosaic.com>; **USA**—  
New Leaf Distribution, website  
<http://www.newleaf-dist.com>; **Europe**—  
Silenzio Music, <http://www.silenzio.de/>

Music Mosaic brings together sounds from around the world into theme compilations on one disc. *Return to Serenity* features 11 tracks from various international artists including Australia's Tarshito, America's Gabrielle Roth, shakuhachi player Kamal and keyboardist/programmer Ross Griggs. Sounds of the Australian outback, flute, nature and environment come together in a special mix. This is not your run-of-the-mill ambient CD, but an entrancing compilation of serene sounds for quieter moments.

### WINDSEEKER

by Tony O'Connor

Studio Horizon, Aust, 2002 (51mins)  
Distributors: **Australia**—Studio Horizon,  
tel (07) 5478 5215, website  
<http://www.tonyoconnor.com.au>; **UK**—  
New Life 2000, tel 0144 2251430;  
**USA**—Studio Horizon North, tel (909)  
302 5370

This new album by ambience maestro Tony O'Connor is an adventure into Native American flute (called the prayer flute). Inspired by the flute work of Tony Richards, he allowed the instrument to lead the way; he started early in the morning, recording, playing continuously and letting the wood do the directing. Almost all is recorded in this freeform style. Tony complements the flute sounds with acoustic guitar, percussion, bass and keyboards. There's a relaxing yet haunting resonance in *Windseeker* that works on many levels.

